



Concerned Women of America MT <cwaofmt@gmail.com>

Re: Next Generation Science Standards

4 messages

Parman, Dennis <DParman@mt.gov>

Wed, Sep 18, 2013 at 5:47 PM

To: "cwaofmt@gmail.com" <cwaofmt@gmail.com>

Dear Tonya,

The short answer to your question is 'no, schools cannot adopt whatever common core standards they desire.' Here's why-

In Montana, only the Board of Public Education (BPE) has the authority to adopt statewide education standards in content areas such as Science, Mathematics, Social Studies, and/or English/Language Arts. Local school districts have the authority to develop curricula that assists teachers in delivering the content of the BPE adopted standards.

Standards define what is to be learned by the end of a school year. Curriculum is the detailed plan for day to day teaching. - See more at:

<http://excelined.org/2013/06/common-core-fact-of-the-day-standards-v-curriculum/#sthash.yy4D48zx.dpuf>

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In general standards are often considered to be statements that define what students should know and be able to do. When they are written they list out what should be learned in a content area, at a grade level by the end of the school year. For example, what 9th grade students should know and be able to do in Science by the end of 9th grade. The state sets the standards.

Locally developed curriculum includes many resources such as activities, lessons, units, chapter tests, and can include the selection of instruction materials such as textbooks, online resources, and videos. Curriculum is generally considered to be the detailed plan for day to day teaching. School districts decide on the curriculum they will use to deliver the broader state standards.

Hope this helps. Please let me know if I can be of more assistance.

Dennis Parman
Deputy Superintendent of Public Instruction

From: Concerned Women of America MT [cwaofmt@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, September 18, 2013 11:39 AM
To: Prezeau, Jael
Subject: Next Generation Science standards

Dear Mr. Prezeau,

Pete Donovan referred me to you. Kris Stockton from his office

Education & Local Gov't Committee
September 23, 2013

Exhibit 9

Hi [REDACTED],

Thank you for sharing your concerns. Our district and state have adopted Common Core standards which means that math, science, language and social studies will be taught in all content areas. All teachers will be responsible to build on learner objectives within their content area. No longer will it be the responsibility of the math teacher to only teach math and the science teacher to only teach science. This is a huge shift in teaching and learning for teachers and students. As we move forward we are hoping that achievement for students will increase.

If your son is struggling, I would encourage you to email his teachers and have your son go in after school to request help.

Hope this helps.

[REDACTED] Principle

[REDACTED]

Hi there.

[REDACTED] is a very conscientious student and works really hard. He had a 4.0 all thru middle school.

However, he struggles with math and is in a special math class. Please be understanding of that as it relates to you teaching algebra in Earth Science, please.

I am not sure I truly understand your purpose of teaching a lot of Math in Earth Science. [REDACTED] may need additional assistance if the concepts are things he has yet to be introduced to. Do other Earth Science teachers focus on a lot of Math in their curriculum as well?

Interested in your thoughts and solutions.

[REDACTED]

Good Afternoon [REDACTED]

Thank you for the email and your concerns. We have adopted Common Core Standards which is integrated in all content areas. I feel that it is important to be able to do simple math in science and it is related to several topics in Earth Science. We do converting of simple numbers and algebra in most areas of Earth Science (Geology, Meteorology, Astronomy, and Oceanography). If [REDACTED] is struggling with any of the concepts in Earth Science, please feel free to have [REDACTED] come see me for additional help.

If you have any questions, please contact me via email or by phone at [REDACTED]

Thank you and have a great weekend.

[REDACTED] Teacher

[REDACTED]

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